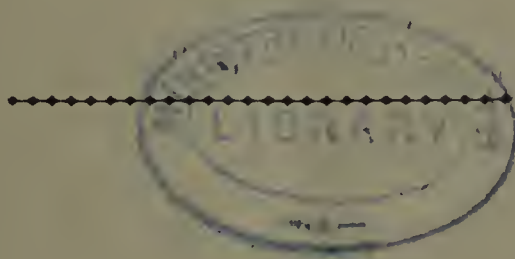


Milford Port Health Authority



Annual Report

for the Year 1950,

of the

Medical Officer of Health.

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MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS, 1950-51.

Chairman : R. G NOOTT, Esq, JP..

Vice-Chairman : W. C. JOHN, Esq.

MEMBERS :

Haverfordwest R.D.C. : J. John, Esq, J.P. ; W. C. James, Esq. ; F. L. Ward, Esq.

Haverfordwest Borough : R. G. Noott, Esq., J.P. ; C. Ivor Male, Esq.

Milford Haven U.D.C. : R. John, Esq., J.P. ; V. T. Cleaver, Esq.

Narberth R.D.C. : W. C. John, Esq.

Neyland U.D.C. : F. Thomas, Esq.

Pembroke Borough : J. S. James, Esq. ; G. H. Jenkins, Esq. ; W. W. George, Esq., J.P. ; D. W. Rees, Esq., M.B.E.

Pembroke R.D.C. : H. D. Howells, Esq ; W. J. Jenkins, Esq. ; W. L. Hancock, Esq.

Clerk : Frederick C. Banner, Esq.

Sanitary Inspector : G. S. Logan, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Medical Officer of Health : W. J. Y. Speedy, M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P.&S., D.P.H.

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PREFACE TO THE REPORT.

June, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Milford Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950. I have made a comprehensive survey of Port Authority matters, chiefly to assist myself to grasp all aspects of the work. However, I hope that these matters will be of interest to all members

I have not been long enough with the Authority to express any strong opinions, and have been content, for my first Annual Report, to make it factual.

The bulk of the Report reflects the work of the Port Sanitary Officer, and this he has carried out in his usual efficient manner.

I wish to thank the Chairman, Members, and Officials for their help and co-operation during the part of the year which I have been associated with the Authority.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. Y SPEEDY.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AUTHORITY.

By an Order dated 21/13/1875, Milford and Riparian Districts were temporarily constituted a Port Sanitary Authority. An Order of 24th April, 1878, made this permanent. A Provisional Order of 1897 repealed the above 1878 Order, and the Port Sanitary Authority was again permanently constituted by Order of 1/9/1898.

Previous to these Orders the Borough of Pembroke was temporarily constituted a Port Sanitary Authority in 1873, and acted as such until the Order of 1875 temporarily appointed Milford and the Riparian Districts as the Port Sanitary Authority.

The Joint Board at this time consisted of 13 Members as follows—

	No of Members
Borough of Pembroke	3
Pembroke Rural	3
Haverfordwest Rural	3
Borough of Haverfordwest	2
Narberth Rural	1
Milford Improvement Commissioners ...	1

By further Orders of the Local Government Board in 1898 and 1915, the constitution of the Board at present is as follows:—

	No. of Members
The Borough of Pembroke	4
The Borough of Haverfordwest	2
The Urban District Council of Milford Haven	2
The Urban District of Neyland	1
The Rural District of Haverfordwest ...	3
The Rural District Council of Narberth ...	1
The Rural District Council of Pembroke ...	3

Neyland Urban District Council was made a Constituent Authority in 1915.

SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

The following table shows the total Shipping, foreign and coastwise, which entered the Port during the year:

	Number	Tonnage	Number By the Medical Officer of Health	Inspected By the Sanitary Inspector	Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors
FOREIGN:											
Steamers	24	24249	24	4	4	nil	nil	nil	nil
* Motor	4	175	—	—	—	nil	nil	nil	nil
Sailing
Fishing	99	2422	99	3	3	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total Foreign	127	26846	123	7	7	nil	nil	nil	nil
COASTWISE:											
Steamers	72	62937	39	2	2	nil	nil	nil	nil
* Motor	95	14379	15	—	—	nil	nil	nil	nil
Sailing
Fishing	1930	162627	643	21	21	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total Coastwise	2097	239943	697	23	23	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total Foreign and Coastwise	2224	266789	820	30	30	nil	nil	nil	nil

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

It will be seen from the above table that the total tonnage entering the Port during 1950 was 266,789 tons. This shows a considerable increase over the figure of 205,805 tons for the year 1949.

LIMIT OF JURISDICTION.

The Jurisdiction of the said Port Sanitary Authority shall extend to so much of the Port of Milford as lies within an imaginary straight line drawn from St. Anne's Head to Block House on the opposite coast, together with the waters of the said part of the Port and all Docks, Bays and Streams, within such part of the Port, and the place or places which may from time to time be appointed as the Customs Boarding Station for such part of the Port under any Regulations for the prevention of the spread of diseases issued under the Authority of the Statutes in that behalf, and for the purpose of any such Regulations as aforesaid shall also extend to any ship which in pursuance thereof or any direction given thereunder shall be moored or anchored in the place appointed thereunder as aforesaid, or which shall be on its way thither.

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE.

Passenger Traffic.

Nil.

Cargo Traffic—Imports.

The main Imports were Fish, Cattle Feeding-Stuffs, Oil Fuel, Artificial Fertilisers, Potatoes, Cement, and General Merchandise.

The following table shows the amounts of the Principal Imports during the year:—

				tons
Cattle Food	...	...	...	5,087 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fertilisers	...	...	...	2,214 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potatoes	...	...	...	3,793 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cement	...	...	...	240
Fish	...	...	...	26,168
Fuel Oil	...	...	...	50,675

Imported Fish is subjected to routine inspections by the officials of Port Health Authority. Other imports are subject to casual inspection.

Cargo Traffic—Exports.

Nil of importance.

Contact with Foreign Countries.

Vessels arrived from the following foreign ports:—Antwerp, Port Said, Brest, Cornearnlau, Ostend, Le Havre, Abadan, Lorient, Camaret, Dieppe, Rouen, Cherbourg, Bilbao, Lisbon, Malta, Bremen, Freetown, Las Palmas, Vigo, Lagos, Bordeaux, and Skien.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

There were no aliens referred for medical examination during the year.

WATER SUPPLY TO THE PORT AND SHIPPING.

The supply of drinking water to the shipping, and to the Port, is the same as that to the Urban District of Milford Haven. The source of this water is the Prescelly gathering grounds and Impounding Reservoir. This water is a typical upland surface water, and is chemically and bacteriologically controlled at all points from Source to Consumer.

Water to the Port for trade purposes is supplied from the Thornton springs and reservoirs.

To facilitate the cleansing of the fish makets, quays, and decks of trawlers, clean salt water is pumped from the haven to the quayside.

Hydrants and Hose Pipes.

Several fire hydrants, in good order, are available in case of fire.

Water Boats.

There are no water boats at this Port, but the Dock tugs have large water tanks aboard.

PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS.

Declaration of Health.

Customs Officers stationed at Milford Haven and Neyland are supplied with Declaration of Health forms. The Master of each vessel is requested to complete this form (in accordance with International Convention) by the Customs Officer or Port Sanitary Officer. The completed form is sent to the Port Health Centre.

Notification of Inward Vessels Requiring Special Attention.

Inward vessels bound for Milford Haven which require special attention pass a Wireless Telegraphy message to the W./T. Station in Cornwall.

This message is then telegraphed to the Port Authority by special arrangement with the Post Office. The code word for such telegrams is "Portelth."

Boarding of Vessels on Arrival.

All vessels, on arrival, are boarded by the Customs Officers or the Port Sanitary Officer, or both.

Mooring Stations.

That part of the Haven bounded on the West by a line drawn 180° from the Flag staff on the Fort on South Hook Point, and on the East by a line joining Little Wick, No. 1 Buoy, No. 3 Buoy, and Popton Point, is the outer mooring station for ships placed in strict Quarantine.

Inner Mooring Stations are the usual places for mooring, loading, or discharging.

Premises, Waiting Rooms for Medical Inspection.

None supplied by Port Health Authority. Presumably arrangements for this purpose could be made to use the Docks First Aid Station.

Cleansing and Disinfection of Ships and Contents.

Facilities are only available for dealing with trawlers and small coasting vessels. For large vessels, and particularly for the use of gaseous disinfectants, the nearest Port capable of doing this work is Swansea.

Cleansing and Disinfection of Persons and Personal Belongings.

No facilities at the Port. The nearest Disinfection Centre is at Haverfordwest (7 miles away), and this Centre is now under the control of the West Wales Management Committee of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

At present there is no proper transport for the removal of persons and articles for disinfection.

Transport and Isolation for Cases of Infectious Disease.

No facilities at the Port.

The Pembrokeshire County Council is the responsible authority for the transportation of sick persons, including Infectious cases, to the appropriate institution.

The designation of the hospital to which a case of Infectious Disease must go is the responsibility of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board. Most cases of Infectious Disease are accepted at Tumble Isolation Hospital in Carmarthenshire. Cases of Smallpox require to be sent to Penrhys Hospital in the Rhondda. Other cases of Convention Disease (Cholera, Typhus Fever, etc.), are sent as directed by the Regional Hospital Board.

Facilities for Quarantine of Contacts or Suspicious Cases.

No facilities at the Port.

Provision of Contact Cards.

A supply of these cards is available for use when necessary.

Arrangement for Bacteriological and Pathological Examinations.

The Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen (38 miles away) is available for these special examinations and investigation.

Arrangements for the Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Venereal Disease.

As far as is known, no special arrangements exist for the Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Venereal Disease.

Arrangements for the Interment of the Dead.

Cases of death are notified to the Police, and arrangements for interment left to them.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE LANDED FROM VESSELS DURING THE YEAR.

Nil to report.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent Infestation on ships, quayside wharves, etc., is dealt with by the Rodent Officer of the Milford Haven Urban District Council.

The nearest Deratisation Port, i.e., a Port able to issue Deratisation Certificates, is Swansea.

The following is a summary of Rodents destroyed during the year:—

	Bodies recovered	Esti- mated kill
On Vessels	129	177
On Docks, Wharves, etc.	293	843

As a summary of Rodent Infestation for the previous year is not recorded, it is difficult to establish whether there has been a rise or fall in the Rat population. Rodent infestation is an important matter, both for the Port and the District as a whole. It is essential that the rat-proofing of vessels, warehouses, etc., should be continually improved.

No special pathological or bacteriological examination of rodents was carried out during the year.

Precautions are usually taken to prevent the passage of rodent between ship and shore. This is an important procedure, and should be insisted upon by owners and skippers.

HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

Crews' quarters are inspected regularly by the Port Sanitary Officer, and occasionally by the Medical Officer of Health. Space, particularly on trawlers, is limited, but the standard of hygiene is reasonably good.

The following table shows the results of inspection during the year:—

Nationality of vessel	No. Inspec- tions in 1950	Wear & Tear Defects	Dirt, vermin etc.
British	2097	22	15
Foreign	121	1	2

MEDICAL WELFARE OF PERSONNEL.

Every trawler is supplied with an adequate first-aid box. The responsibility of keeping this box up-to-date falls upon the Skipper. Skippers and Mates are trained in first aid before going to sea in this capacity.

A well equipped first aid station is available on the Docks.

PORT SANITATION.

Total number of males working on the Docks
during morning—1,040 (approx.).
(includes workmen employed by Ship Repairing
Companies, etc.).

Seven combined urinals and lavatories, each containing 4 w.c.'s are provided for general public use on the Docks. In addition, two urinals only, two (penny in slot) w.c.'s, and eight lock-up w.c.'s are provided. Fifteen firms have provided separate w.c. accommodation for their office staffs, etc.

Total number of females normally working on
the Docks during the morning—160 (approx.).

This number varies during the year, and is at its peak during the herring season, when extra female labour is employed in the Smoke Houses.

Number of w.c.'s for women—12.

The public urinals are maintained and cleaned by the Docks Co. The remaining conveniences are cleaned by the private firms, and the general standard of cleanliness is satisfactory.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Fish.

The principal import to the Port is fish. There are steam trawlers based at Milford Haven.

The following is a summary of total amount of fish landed and other relevant information for the last 5 years' period (all figures in tons):—

Year	Total fish landed	Condemned Offal etc.	Marketable fish
1946	59,043	3280	55,763
1947	53,782	4495	49,287
1948	33,590	4517	28,258
		815	
1949	31,006	5459	25,547
1950	26,168	5258	20,910

It will be seen from this table that there has been a gradual reduction in the total fish landed, and marketable fish, during the past 5 years. One satisfactory point about this is that the amount of unmarketable fish (column 3) shows a reduction over the figure for 1949.

The following is a monthly summary of the fish landed at the Port during the year:—

Month	Tonnage
January	1978
February	1545
March	3269
April	2285
May	2466
June	1968
July	1985
August	2833
September	1956
October	2071
November	2117
December	1695
	<hr/>
	26168

All fish landed is routinely inspected by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

The total quantity of fish landed continues to fall. The quality, however, was as good, and probably better, than the preceding year. As far as the trade is concerned, the decrease in the amount of unsold fish, although slight, is encouraging.

Sound measures for the improvement in the quality of the fish, from producer to consumer, were given in the Annual Report for 1949.

Shell-Fish.

In 1933 an attempt was made to resuscitate the oyster fishing industry by laying 80,000 Portugese Oysters in the River Cleddau, up as far as Llangwm. This attempt has not been successful.

The following is a summary of the natural or native shell-fish beds within the Port Authority area:—

Site	Type	Commercial	Local Use	Only
Angle	Mussels) —	—	
	Winkles) ÷	÷	
Kilpaison	Cockles	÷	÷	
Dale	Cockles)		
	Mussels) —	÷	
Pwllcrochan	Cockles)		
Gelliswick	Cockles)		
Pennar Gut	Cockles)		
Black Mixen	Cockles) —	÷	
Fowborough	Cockles)		
Point				
Ringley Wells	Mussels)		
Garron Pill	Mussels) —	÷	
Jenkins Point	Winkles	÷ (small)	÷	

It will be seen from this table that there is no large Commercial use of shell-fish, and hence no important public health problems arise.

There were no fish layings during 1950. No action, under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regs., 1934, or the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, was taken during the year.

Meat.

There was no imported meat to the Port. But it was found necessary to inspect meat on board Trawlers, which were held up by bad weather or crew difficulties. As a result of these inspections approximately 14 cwts. of meat were condemned.

No slaughtering of animals takes place in the Port.

